



United States Department of Agriculture

National Agricultural
Statistics Service



Illinois Department
of Agriculture

Illinois Field Office • PO Box 19283 • Springfield, IL 62794-9283 • www.nass.usda.gov • 217-492-4295

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
January 12, 2010

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:
Brad Schwab or Mark Schleusener- 800/622-9865

SPRINGFIELD, IL -- The Illinois Field Office today released the USDA's **Annual Fall Crop Summary, Winter Wheat Seedings, and Grain Stocks Report**. State and national highlights of the report include:

ILLINOIS

Production of **corn** for grain totaled 2.065 billion bushels in 2009, 3 percent less than the 2008 production. The final yield was 175 bushels per acre, 4 bushels below the previous year's yield. There were 12.0 million acres planted to corn in Illinois in 2009. Spring rains delayed planting this year with many farmers not finishing until mid June. Cooler than normal temperatures, along with extra moisture, slowed crop development to a crawl this past summer. Harvest conditions were not any better. Fall rains pushed harvest in Illinois well into December with 11.8 million acres being harvested for grain.

The final yield for the 2009 **soybean** crop was 46 bushels per acre, 1 bushel below the 2008 yield. Production in 2009 reached 430.1 million bushels, slightly above the 2008 production. Acres planted in 2009 were up 200 thousand from 2008 to 9.4 million.

The final 2009 yield for **sorghum** for grain was 82 bushels per acre, 21 bushels below the yield in 2008 but one bushel more than 2007. Production, at 2.952 million bushels, was down 62 percent from the previous year. Total planted and harvested for grain acres were 40 and 36 thousand, respectively.

Production of **all hay** in 2009 was 2.0 million tons, 7 percent more than in 2008. Alfalfa hay production was down 3 percent to 1.33 million tons while all other hay production increased 32 percent to 675 thousand tons. Yields averaged 3.9 tons per acre for alfalfa hay and 2.5 tons per acre for all other hay. Alfalfa acreage cut for hay was 340 thousand in 2009, down 10,000 acres from 2008. Acreage of all other hay cut was 270 thousand, unchanged from 2008.

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An estimated 350 thousand acres of **winter wheat** were seeded in the fall of 2009, 59 percent less than in 2008. This is the lowest acreage for winter wheat planted on record. The state-wide precipitation for October was 8.90 inches, which was 6.0 inches above normal. Based on preliminary data, this was the second wettest October on record. The heaviest rains fell in the southern half of the state with totals ranging from 6 to 12 inches. Statewide temperatures for October were 4.8 degrees below normal, making it the seventh coldest October on record. Statewide records of temperature and precipitation go back to 1895. Wheat seeding was well behind with only 33% of the crop planted by October 26th, compared to 74% last year and 82% for the five year average.

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Corn for grain production is estimated at a record 13.2 billion bushels, up 2 percent from the November 1 forecast, and 1 percent above the previous record of 13.0 billion bushels set in 2007. U.S. grain yield is also estimated at a record level for 2009, at 165.2 bushels per acre. This is up 2.3 bushels from the November forecast and 4.9 bushels above the previous record of 160.3 bushels per acre set in 2004.

Soybean production in 2009 totaled 3.36 billion bushels, up 1 percent from the November 1 forecast and up 13 percent from 2008. U.S. production is the largest on record. The average yield per acre is estimated at a record high 44.0 bushels, 0.7 bushel above the November 1 forecast and 4.3 bushels above last year's yield. Harvested area is up 2 percent from 2008 to a record 76.4 million acres.

Sorghum grain production in 2009 is estimated at 383 million bushels, up 5 percent from the November 1 forecast but 19 percent below 2008. Planted area is estimated at 6.63 million acres, down 20 percent from last year and is the third lowest acreage total on record. Area harvested for grain, at 5.52 million acres, is down 24 percent from 2008. Average grain yield, at 69.4 bushels per acre, is up 5.4 bushels from the previous forecast and up 4.4 bushels from last year.

All Hay production of dry hay for 2009 is estimated at 147 million tons, down 3 percent from the October 1 forecast but up 1 percent from the 2008 total. Area harvested is at 59.8 million acres, down 1 percent from the October 1 forecast and down 1 percent from 2008. The average yield, at 2.47 tons per acre, is down 0.07 ton from October but up 0.04 ton from the previous year.

Winter wheat seeded area for 2010 is expected to total 37.1 million acres, down 14 percent from 2009. Approximate class acreage breakdowns are: Hard Red Winter, 27.8 million; Soft Red Winter, 5.92 million; and White Winter, 3.33 million.

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GRAIN STOCKS

Corn stocks in Illinois on December 1, 2009 totaled 1.88 billion bushels, down six percent from a year earlier. On-farm stocks, at 1.20 million bushels, accounted for 64 percent of the total stocks. Off-farm stocks, at 679.5 million bushels, was down 24 percent from 2008.

Soybean stocks totaled 371.2 million bushels stored in all positions on December 1, 2009, down five percent from the previous year's total. On farm stocks totaled 200 million bushels, 54 percent of the total stocks and five percent below December 1, 2008. Off-farm stocks, at 171.2 million bushels, were down six percent from a year earlier.

Wheat stocks in all positions totaled 55.3 million bushels on December 1, 2009. Off-farm stocks, at 48.9 million bushels accounted for 88 percent of the state total. On-farm stocks totaled 6.4 million bushels, down 17 percent from a year earlier.

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Corn stored in all positions on December 1, 2009 totaled 10.9 billion bushels, up 9 percent from December 1, 2008. Of the total stocks, 7.45 billion bushels are stored on farms, up 15 percent from a year earlier. Off-farm stocks, at 3.49 billion bushels, are down 3 percent from a year ago. The September - November 2009 indicated disappearance is 3.89 billion bushels, compared with 3.64 billion bushels during the same period last year.

Soybeans stored in all positions on December 1, 2009 totaled 2.34 billion bushels, up 3 percent from December 1, 2008. Soybean stocks stored on farms totaled 1.23 billion bushels, up 4 percent from a year ago. Off-farm stocks, at 1.11 billion bushels, are up 2 percent from last December. Indicated disappearance for September - November 2009 totaled 1.16 billion bushels, up 30 percent from the same period a year earlier.

All **wheat** stored in all positions on December 1, 2009 totaled 1.77 billion bushels, up 24 percent from a year ago. On-farm stocks are estimated at 559 million bushels, up 23 percent from last December. Off-farm stocks, at 1.21 billion bushels, are up 25 percent from a year ago. The September - November 2009 indicated disappearance is 444 million bushels, up 2 percent from the same period a year earlier.